

WENHAM COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 14, 2006

Attending:

Board Members: Jack Hauck, Barbara Morrell, Kit Richardson, Jane Richardson

Associate Members: Roseanne Brozenski, Marion D'Ambrosio, John Suminsby

COA Director/Van Supervisor – Trudy Reid

Guest: Tom Tanous, Selectman (liaison with Wenham Selectman)

Chairman Jack Hauck called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. It was determined that there was not a quorum, however, the meeting continued with no voting.

Jack's opening comments included the more involved you are, the more active you stay. The board has several program/ideas to offer, however, more people are needed to help. Although the board is filled, the COA can always use Associate Members.

Minutes of the Meeting of February 14, 2006 were reviewed and put on hold for approval at the April General Meeting.

Committee Reports:

Artwork: Kit Richardson: The art teacher for the elementary schools is interested in displaying the children's art work. This may happen for the month of May.

Trudy reported that the H-W Chronicle editor stopped by to take pictures of the latest display. Kit has submitted a request to the Friends group to purchase additional hardware in order to hang more art work. Kit also mentioned a possibility of displaying watercolors done by Arnold Currier (deceased great grandson of Nathaniel Currier, of Currier & Ives fame).

Budget – Trudy Reid reported for the proposed FY07 budget, the finance committee has cut \$400.00 from our proposed budget of \$5,900. With the start up of the Friends group, we are hoping for some help from them next year to help pay for some expenses, such as the newsletter. For the FY06 budget, because of last month's board discussion regarding charging for the pops bus trip and the tea, we should be OK. Trudy will continue to monitor current budget.

Friends – Since Mary Kelly was not present, Jack reported that the Friends group is off to a great start. Mary has started working on the paperwork to submit for Federal tax exempt. The Friends has 18 months to submit and the cost will be \$500.00 The Friends group is making plans for a yard sale/bake sale for Saturday, June 17. Location is still being discussed since storage will be needed to hold

items until yard sale. Jack made a request for anyone to contact Mary if they knew of a place to store items for the yard sale.

Programs – Roseanne reported that the Game Day did not do well. This program will be re-addressed at another time. Trudy reported that the Computer Class is going well. The instructor is looking at her schedule and possibly another session will be offered. Barbara Morrell spoke about a person who would be interested in presenting a program on Ukraine eggs. Barbara is waiting a call back. Barbara also mentioned that maybe consideration could be given to raffle off one of the eggs as a fundraiser for the Friends.

Socials – Jane has several trips planned. At the moment, not many people are signed up to attend the Boston Pops (5/17). Jane is working on a Lighthouse tour (6/10), the Victorian Tea (4/20), a baseball game to Lynn (no date as of yet), and an overnight trip to Nantucket (9/6-8).

Van Service – Trudy reported for the month of January, we had 127 riders, with 250 trips. For the month of February, we had 120 riders, with 235 trips. The selectman agreed to a van gift account, which means any money the van collects from donations, will be deposited into the gift account, to be used strictly for the van.

5 Year Plan - Trudy Jack, and Luci met recently to begin discussion of a five year plan for the COA. In our preliminary report, we are looking at office expenses, staffing, programs, age of seniors over the next five years, etc.

COA Coffees – March 18 will be Debra Schwendiman from SeniorCare. She will discuss Alzheimer/Dementia concerns. April 1, scheduled is Peter Hersee. He will discuss the warrants that will be presented at Wenham's Annual Town Meeting. Because there are two candidates running for town selectman, Peter's presentation may get bumped or shortened, in order for the selectman candidates to present themselves. April 15, John Darling is scheduled to discuss the building committee plans. May 6 is the Annual Town Meeting. It was agreed to host the coffee, but not to have a formal program. For those seniors coming out to vote, they may stop by for a cup of coffee. May 20, scheduled are 3 students, 1 4th grade and 2 6th graders who will perform some sort of music. At least one child is doing this as his community service project for school. Bill Jenkins from Hamilton is interested in presenting a program regarding the Volkssport Club. He may be scheduled in June. Trudy received a call from a mortgage company located in Wenham and they were wondering if they could present a program on "reverse mortgages". It was decided that this type of program would be against the policy of coffee speakers.

Grants from Elder Affairs – The grant that Mary Kelly and Trudy worked on is still pending. Trudy was told by the Elder Affairs office that 100+ applications were received and all would be considered. If we are awarded this grant, the money must be used by the end of June. Hopefully, we will hear something soon.

Outreach - Out reach is still a concern of Trudy's. Although she considers the newsletter one way of reaching out to the senior population, however, she would like to have more time to visit with seniors in their homes. With Spring soon approaching, Trudy is hoping to start setting some time aside to visit. For those seniors who are able to get out, Trudy may consider starting a program where she would invite one or two out to lunch once or twice a month, at her expense since there is no money in the budget to cover such a program.

Newsletter – For the months of February/March, 583 copies were mailed. Articles included in this issue was the coffee presentations from the Hatfields and from Mr. Cheeseman. Only one more issue will be mailed between now and the end of June.

TRIAD Update – Approval was received from the selectman to offer the Yellow Dot Program on Saturday, May 6, Annual Town Meeting. The council is asking a variety of youth groups from town to assist with this program. Depending on their response, Trudy may see if Danvers would be willing to assist since they have offered this program in the past. At the suggestion of the selectman, a flyer will be handed out to residents when the town reports are delivered by the boy scouts. If anyone would like to help with this program on May 6, please feel free to volunteer.

Web Site – Trudy has been working with Bill Nichols on getting this up and running. Bill will provide our host services, which we will pay for from the grant we received from First Church. Trudy worked with Bill on learning how to do the updates. The web site was mentioned in the newsletter for seniors to check out; however the site is still under construction. If you have anything you would like listed on the web site, please put it in writing and forward to Trudy. Trudy will work on getting a link to the town, police, library, and various other sites that would be of interest to seniors. The address is: wenhamcoa.org

Meals at Enon Village – Thursday, March 16th, Enon Village will be having a traditional corned beef meal, in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. Trudy assisted with this in getting the word out. At the moment, they have about 35 people signed up, which is great, compared to the 10 or so that usually attend. The food that is prepared by the middle school is good most of the time good. It would be great if more people would attend on a daily basis. The meal service was also mentioned in the newsletter, and will be included on the web site.

Old Business:

Because of the lack of board members present, Jack decided to table this section until the next meeting.

New Business:

Because of the lack of board members present, Jack decided to table this section until the next meeting.

Jack suggested that Council members attend other senior events in the area, such as at the library, which will have a cribbage tournament on March 30, and promote the WCOA. The library has offered to let the WCOA host for its coffees and present information about our programs and services.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM.

Next Meeting –April 11, 2006

Respectfully submitted

Trudy Reid

COA Director